

1.913
FSS052
Prelim.
Reserve

SOME MAJOR PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

IN RELATION TO THE

4-H CLUB PROGRAM

For Workshop Use by National Advisory
Group on 4-H Post-war Programs

Preliminary - Not for Distribution

Prepared by:
Division of Field Coordi-
nation, Extension Service,
War Food Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

USDA
LIB

1919 1945

PART I

1. Farm Income
2. Family Food Supply
3. Health, Nutrition, and Safety
4. Rural School Education
5. Farm Tenure
 Owner
 Tenant
6. Housing and Home Improvement
 Rural Electrification
7. Agriculture Production Adjustments
 Marketing
 Distribution
8. Rural Family Living and Recreation
 Church
9. Conservation of Land, Water, and Forests

PART II

- A. Rural Public Policy Making
- B. Youth Migration

References:

W.F.L. : Wartime Family Living, 1944

L.G.C.C.P.A.P. : Land Grant College Committee on Post-war Agricultural Policy

1940)

[illegible]

Table 2 - Farm families' food expenditures in 1941, by money income class:

"Farm families with incomes under \$250 a year produced food valued at almost three times the cost of their purchased food, while families with incomes over \$3,000 purchased more food than they produced at home. About one-tenth of the latter's food expenditures, however, went for food outside the home, for example, for meals at work and at school. Although cost is not a specific criterion of adequate diets since cheap food may be as nutritious as expensive food, it is recognized that poor diets are frequently the result of low food expenditures and low incomes. Farm families with low incomes must, therefore, be encouraged to produce at home as much food as they can." (W.F.L. p. 19)

In what ways may county extension agents be helped to reach young people of low-income families with a practical food production program?

How can boys and girls of low-income families be further stimulated to participate in a practical family food supply program?

How can specialists further cooperate in helping 4-H members to increase the family food supply?

[illegible]

HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND SAFETY

Examples of the Problem or Situation:

"War foods and processes for the post-war era."

"Increased nutritive content and savings in time, energy, and money may result from new food developments. Improvements in flour mixtures, dehydrated foods and frozen foods have occurred during the war period. Many of these developments may carry over into the post-war period." (W.F.L. p. 12)

"Shortage of Physicians increases."

"The shortage of physicians continues, however, and will continue at least until the armed forces are fully demobilized. The small number of physicians practicing in rural areas was a problem before the war. Moreover, proportionately more physicians went into the armed services from rural than from urban areas, and the situation was seriously aggravated. The time is coming, though, when the war situation may be made to serve rural areas. Demobilization will return large numbers of physicians to civilian life, many of whom will have to establish themselves in practice for the first time." (W.F.L. p.42)

"It is predicted that we shall feel a shortage of physicians within five years." (W.F.L. p.45)

"As for nutrition, the evidence is that only one-fourth of farm families at present are using diets which meet nutritional standards. Moreover, since these standards do not take into account food waste and loss of nutritive value in the processing and preparation of food, the estimate is somewhat optimistic.

"All children must have good diets if the coming generation is to enjoy that degree of vigor and health which science has shown how to attain. Because most children in rural areas must eat one meal a day away from home, the school lunch is highly important, making it imperative to serve an adequate one to all children who do not go home at noon." (L.G.C.C.P.A.P. p.43)

QUESTIONS:

In what ways can the 4-H Club health program already under way be strengthened?

In what ways can 4-H Club leaders cooperate with other agencies in solving major health problems?

In what ways can the 4-H nutrition program be further strengthened?

What are the successful methods so far discovered for changing the food habits of 4-H Club members?

The organized school lunch program was first started as a part of the 4-H program. How can this program be further developed and strengthened?

How can club leaders develop a 4-H nutrition program that will be challenging, interesting, and effective?

4-H PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

GOALS

ACTION

Examples of Problem or Situation:

"Our declining school population"

"In rural areas enrollment of boys in the last 2 years of high school dropped 15 percent over the summer; enrollment of girls dropped about 6 percent.

"Schools may expect that when the war ends and these young people are demobilized from the armed forces and war industry, many will want to pick up their education where they left off. In many cases, however, they will be too mature to fit into the classes they left. This will be particularly true of boys who have seen active service. The schools must face the problem of working out adjustments in their normal program to make it attractive to the older students.

"White House Conference on rural education"

"The conference adopted a tentative "charter for rural education" containing the following principles:

- Insure all ages of rural Americans their fair share of education.
- Produce vigorous, wholesome, balanced and steadily growing personalities.
- Strive for a community that sustains and nourishes democratic life.
- Demand dynamic and highly skilled professional leaders who can deal effectively with problems of rural communities.
- Provide adequate rural school buildings and grounds.
- Create satisfactory administrative and attendance units.
- Provide equitable plans for financing rural education.
- Unite all the forces of the community in a coordinated effort."

(W.F.L., pp 46-47)

"All rural children should have as good a basic education as is available to non-farm children. Materials used in the curriculum should be adapted to the environment with which farm children are familiar. Beyond that, rural schools need to offer guidance programs and vocational training facilities for those who plan to remain in agriculture as well as those who will go into employment, and must offer further academic work for students preparing to enter college.

"There is need also for educational opportunities other than those provided in regular school courses. In all communities the schools and extension service must offer training for adults as well as youth in vocational, family life, civic and cultural fields for the purpose of improving the social and economic life of rural people. Such a program can include class work, consultation services, library facilities, lectures, and an expanded use of education by radio."

(L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p.42)

QUESTIONS:

What is the situation with respect to opportunities for rural youth as compared with urban youth to acquire:

1. Elementary education?

2. High school education?

What constructive measures should be instituted to equalize educational opportunities for rural children?

What are some specific contributions 4-H Club work has to offer to the education of rural youth?

4-H PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

[illegible]

Examples of Problem or Situation:

"Desirable Tenure Pattern Needed"

"In the first place, the family-type farm should remain the basis on which American agriculture typically is organized. Although there is no reason to standardize all farms, because of differences in agricultural requirements and in the managerial abilities of farmers, the best interest of the country will be served when a majority of farms are of a type on which the operator, with the help of his family and a moderate amount of outside labor, can make a satisfactory living and maintain the farm's productivity and assets. About 3,000,000 farms are of this kind at present, compared with about 80,000 larger-scale farms and plantations. The nearly 2,500,000 other farms listed by the census are small units. About half of these are not dependent on agricultural income, for they are part-time farms and rural residences. But there remain over a million very small farms, many only subsistence farms, on which the families are trying to gain a living by farming.

"Second, a large proportion of farms should be owned by those who operate them, and a continuing stream of those who engage in farming should eventually become owners.

"Third, landlord-tenant relationships, and the status of farm laborers, need to be improved, not only to facilitate the advance of laborers and tenants to ownership, but also to assure that tenants and laborers have a suitable scale of living, participate in community life, and take good care of the resources with which they are temporarily entrusted." (L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p. 25)

"Farm Ownership"

"Procedures should be developed to facilitate continuous owner-operation of farms by succeeding generations of the same family. A great deal can be accomplished by business-like agreements providing for joint father-son operation of farms, and for satisfactory living facilities for two families to encourage married young people to remain on the home farm and eventually assume complete responsibility for it. There is also need to discourage the practice of subdividing farms into units too small for economical operation, to provide for prompt settlement of farm estates to permit purchase by the farm operator at fair income value, and to give protection from undue risks to the one who assumes ownership. (L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p.26)

"Back-to-the-Land Movement Not Needed"

"A back-to-the-land movement, contemplating the settlement of new lands, is likely to develop after the war, and will pose a problem of critical importance.

"Obviously, this nation will not need any large amount of additional farm land in the near future. Agricultural production recently has been at record levels, despite wartime shortages of labor, equipment, and materials. When peace returns, fewer people will be needed in full-time farming than before the war, even if the purchasing power of consumers remains high so as to assure a good demand for farm products." (L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p.29)

QUESTIONS:

In the post-war period what guidance will older rural youth need with respect to purchasing a farm?

What are the prospects for accomplishing more in the direction of a father-and-son partnership to help the son become established in farming?

What are some advantages to be derived by a young farmer serving as a tenant for a few years?

How can we help him to be a successful farmer?

To what extent is it a good policy for a large proportion of farms to be operated by those who own them?

4-H PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

[illegible]

HOUSING AND HOME IMPROVEMENT

Examples of Problem or Situation:

"Workers among rural people do not need to be told that farm families, as a group, are the most poorly-housed people in our country; that large numbers of them put up with more crowding, lack of repair, and inadequate facilities than families in either cities or villages. Preliminary estimates of farm housing needs based on the 1940 census indicate that nearly one-third of the farm houses were practically beyond repair; one-third were in need of repairs and additions; and, another third were in good condition. Among those in good structural condition, however, about half would fall short of modern standards for even the minimum of facilities and conveniences.

"State plans for post-war farm housing

"In the States, agricultural post-war planning committees have surveyed the needs of their own people and made recommendations to meet them. Although not all of the 48 States have mapped out a plan or analyzed their particular situation, those that have agreed on a number of points. For one thing, they agree that farm homes do need improvement and repair, remodeling and rebuilding. They agree that before much can be done families themselves need to have a desire to be better housed, and they believe that this can be accomplished through educational programs. Many of them propose programs to train farmers and their sons in building skills, and farm families in planning houses that will meet their individual needs.

"Family plans for post-war farm housing

"Plans for Federal, State, and family groups apparently aim at the same objective--better homes for farm people after the war. They agree on another point, too, that most of these must be provided at low cost.

"The Office of Civilian Requirements survey indicated that farm families expect to get their new homes with relatively small expenditures, that the median price they will pay is \$1,900. For the South, where the greatest activity is expected, plans are for houses of still lower cost. This means that much of the labor will be that of family members and the materials home-produced. It also indicates that there should be emphasis on education programs in helping these families get as much as possible for their limited funds in comfort, convenience, and structural soundness. (W.F.L., pp. 20-22)

"It would seem a reasonable goal to seek farmhouses which are substantial in construction, attractive in appearance, suited to the climate, large enough to meet the needs of the family, and equipped with such facilities for light, heat, water, sewage disposal, and care of food as are adequate for the protection of health.

"Electrification is Urgent

"In the country electricity is not merely a convenience, but actually a necessity for efficient farming and living. Electricity on the farm does more

than furnish light, pump water, and operate household equipment. It brings machine-age efficiency to many farm tasks which have been done by hand, and it makes possible temperature-controlled storage or cooling of farm products. By aiding rural industrialization and encouraging the development of vacation homes and rural residences, it can bring increased employment opportunities to rural people.

"More than half of the nation's farms are still without electric power. While many of these no doubt are in areas which it is not feasible to reach, it should be an immediate concern in the post-war period to extend this service as rapidly as possible. In doing this, however, it is important that the systems constructed be designed to meet the needs of all potential consumers in the areas to be served.

"Farmers can be helped by a program of education on the operation and maintenance of electrical equipment." (L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p. 45)

QUESTIONS:

What phases of a practical housing program can be made an integral part of the 4-H program?

What resources can be made available in the furtherance of a 4-H housing program?

What successful techniques should be followed?

How can 4-H members be trained in building skills?

How can adequate leadership be provided?

4-H Program Implications		
Goals	:	Action
1. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	1. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.
2. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	2. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.
3. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	3. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.
4. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	4. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.
5. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	5. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.
6. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	6. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.
7. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	7. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.
8. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	8. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.
9. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	9. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.
10. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.	:	10. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ADJUSTMENTS

Examples of the Problem or Situation:

"A quarter million dairy farmers who formerly sold farm-separated cream and fed the skim milk to livestock are now selling fluid whole milk. This shift means an important war adjustment by the dairy industry and increased consumption by humans of the minerals, vitamins and protein in the skim milk. Whole milk sales are likely to continue high in the post-war period."
(W.F.L., p. 14)

"Extension of the school lunch program has been suggested as one possible market for the tremendous production of our farms after the war. Agriculture will be able to produce about one-third more than in 1935-39 and markets are needed for this expansion. Government purchase of food and distribution in school lunch programs and to low-income families can help solve this problem, as well as provide better nutrition."
(W.F.L., p. 15)

"Large-scale readjustments in agriculture are inevitable in the post-war period. They too will require skillful planning on the part of farmers and the wide use of technical information. This will be true not only with the growing of crops and livestock, but even more so in dealing with the complicated factors related to the marketing and distribution of the products which farmers have to sell. Undoubtedly, the agriculture of this Nation will have to make larger changes in the next few years than it has ever made in a comparable previous period."
(L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p. 1)

"These are Basic Economic Considerations

"First, in a progressive economy the needed foods and fibers can be produced by a decreasing proportion of the total population.

"Second, the farm population more than reproduces itself, while the urban population fails to maintain its own numbers.

"Third, a period of economic depression not only interrupts but reverses the normal flow of population from the farm to the city.

"Fourth, there is a constant tendency for advantages such as accrue from higher farm prices and farm incomes to be capitalized into higher farm land values rather than these advantages being used primarily for improving the standard of living."
(L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p. 4)

.... "Policies to limit output must be reversed all along the line if we are to attain the high level of living which our resources can provide.

.... "Private enterprise involves the risk of loss as well as the possibility of gain."
(L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p.5)

"Farmers' cooperative associations are particularly effective in improving the marketing of agricultural products and purchasing of farm supplies and services. As pace-setters in promoting efficiency, they benefit nonmembers

as well as members, and in the long run a portion of the savings they achieve are passed on to consumers in the form of lower prices." (L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p.21)

(In order to concentrate the discussion, consider Dairying as a typical 4-H project. Both boys and girls participate in this production project. Comments will, doubtless, apply equally well to poultry, gardening, or any other type of food or fiber production work.)

QUESTIONS:

1. How can production adjustment information be best provided for use by 4-H members?
2. To which age group should this information be given?
3. How can 4-H members be taught to intelligently utilize production adjustment information?
4. To what extent can 4-H members be reasonably expected to make production adjustments?

[illegible]

RURAL FAMILY LIVING AND RECREATION

Examples of Problem or Situation:

"Better farm family living encompasses so much that it might well be described as the crowning social objective of farm life.

"The quality of family living affects the physical, mental, spiritual, and social development of all rural people, young and old. It determines whether able, enterprising youth make up the ranks of those who will be the farmers of the next generation, and whether rural people who go to the city make their greatest possible contribution there.

"In many families the income simply is too small to provide an adequate level of living. Yet it is equally true that it is not only the size of the income as such, but rather what people want and are able to get for it, which determines the quality of their living.

"Clearly, not only do farm families need adequate incomes, but they also need to use their income wisely and to have available the facilities which make for good living. Many farms, however, are located in sparsely settled areas which are not adequately supplied with shopping center, good roads, libraries, medical facilities, schools, churches, and recreational facilities."

(L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p.41)

Family living goals recently set:

"A nutritionally adequate diet.

A house that can be made into a home

Clothing for protection and enjoyment

Health for every member of the family

Education for participation in a democratic society

Recreation for better living

Personal cleanliness and good grooming

Transportation for business and pleasure

Communication with other persons and other areas

Economic security for the family."

(Wartime Family Living, p. 8)

Religious Activities Should be Developed

"A nation's greatness cannot be measured entirely by its material resources, nor does the well-being of a people depend alone upon the abundance of things they possess. Any plans for building a better agriculture must include provision for the full development of religious institutions that serve rural people.

"The church does more than encourage and facilitate group worship. It encourages people to believe they are individually important, that the community and church need them, and gives them the desire to live up to their highest possibilities. The church ties people to the community, giving men and women a feeling of happiness and satisfaction in what they are doing and

(L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p. 47)

Rural People Want Recreation

"Every recent study of the problems of rural young people has shown one of their most heartfelt wants is for better recreational facilities.

"Some groups, including certain church and farm organizations, have been notably successful in filling this universal need, but the fact remains that the great majority of rural young people simply do not have any suitable place to get together for recreation under a wholesome environment.

"Farm communities need to recognize that what they do, or fail to do, in making the locality socially satisfying to both youth and adults, will influence markedly the kind of agriculture they will have in the years ahead. Adequate recreational facilities are a requirement of real importance, and cannot be safely neglected or indefinitely postponed." (L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p. 47)

QUESTIONS:

1. How can recreation in the 4-H program provide satisfactions for the members' basic needs and desires as well as for organization and program-building purposes?
2. Will the same type of recreation fill the needs of the 10 to 15-year-old and the 16 to 20-year-old?
3. Are there possible camping sites and structures available that might be reserved now for an expanded 4-H camp program in the post-war period?
4. How can training in recreational leadership be provided?
5. How can 4-H Clubs help provide community social centers?

4-H PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

[illegible]

CONSERVATION OF LAND, WATER, AND FORESTS

Examples of Problem or Situation:

"This nation presents the paradox that although in many ways it has come of age, its use of natural resources still is largely of the exploitive sort which served usefully when the country was young but can lead only to want and distress if long continued.

"For at least a generation now, we have seen increasingly frequent and extensive examples of areas blighted because the soil was depleted, the timber gone, water lacking, or resources put to unsuitable uses.

"If agriculture and its associated industries are to flourish soundly, both in the immediate post-war period and in the long-run future, it is urgently necessary to adopt progressive and truly effective measures to improve, protect, restore, utilize, and maintain the nation's natural resources. The measures need to be in effect continuous, in good times as well as bad.

"The war has driven home the importance of this nation's resources, making it unthinkable to allow wasteful use of them to continue. Conservation must take a firm hold on our moral sense - and even more important, we must act, and in a manner much more adequate than in the past." (L.G.C.C.P.A.P., p. 32)

"This nation has plenty of forest land to provide for adequate forest supplies for the future. The crucial factors are the age and state of depletion of forest growing stocks. These have been adversely affected by destructive cutting, forest fires, insects, diseases, and indiscriminate grazing. Wartime demands have put a severe strain on our timber resources; they have not altered basic trends. Measures that will result in adequate future supplies of forest products, therefore, must be directed towards the prevention of further reduction of the forest capital or growing stock.

"In general the most effective way of bringing current growth into balance with timber drain involves better education, better cutting practices, better utilization of the harvested timber, better protection of forests against fire and other destructive agents, improvement in forest land taxation, and better land classification and use.

"Farm woodlands represent an important and distinctive type of ownership with possibilities of contributing significantly to the total farm income, especially in the South and East. However, farm forestry programs of the past have been inadequate, as indicated by the generally low volume of timber produced and the all too frequent poor condition of growing stocks.

"Measures looking toward the improvement of farm woodlands need to be widely adopted. In general they will include extended and intensified programs of research and extension in farm forestry; clearer recognition by land-grant colleges of the economic possibilities of farm forests; the control of grazing; a better understanding and definition of the responsibilities of various state agencies; and the organization of cooperative woodland management and marketing associations." (L.G.C.C.P.A.P., pp. 38-40)

QUESTION:

How can we extend conservation work with more boys and girls?

4-H PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

GOALS	ACTION
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	1. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	2. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	3. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	4. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	5. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	6. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	7. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	8. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	9. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	10. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	11. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	12. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	13. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	14. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	15. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	16. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.
To develop a conservation program for boys and girls in the community.	17. Contact the local conservation organization for advice and assistance.

[illegible]

"Although need for non-farm opportunities has been emphasized, it is vital to maintain in agriculture a sufficient number of efficient people. Consequently, attention should be focused not only on economic rewards of farming, but also on every aspect of rural living. In this way, agriculture will be able to retain its share of ambitious and able young people, for it remains true that many thousands of persons who possess the necessary experience and energy, put forth the effort required, use good judgment, take advantage of available private and public aids, will find their best opportunities on a farm." (L.G.C.C.P.A.P., pp. 9-10)

4-H PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

[illegible]